

29 September 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting on State's objections to proposed Section 57 outline

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1. Messrs. Allan Evans, John E. MacDonald, State, ~~John F. Kennedy~~, and the undersigned met at State on 22 September 1965 to discuss State's opposition to the proposed outline revision of NIS Section 57, Subversion and Insurgency. Because of press of other business, Mr. George Denny, Deputy Director, DHR, was unable to attend.

2. In opening the discussion, Mr. MacDonald summarized State's position, indicating that most of the objections to the outline centered around the judgment that the NIS was not the proper vehicle for providing a direct response to the questions described in the DIA memo of 25 March 1965 as "Cold War Analysis Essential Elements of Counterinsurgency Intelligence." It was pointed out by the undersigned that although in developing the outline a deliberate attempt had been made to answer the major questions, the primary objective was to develop well-organized, national basic intelligence coverage on this increasingly important field that would reflect a community rather than a purely departmental approach, and thus obviate the need for the many departmental publications on the subject. Further, the interagency structure and authority of the NIS Program would offer the coordination necessary to insure that the prerogatives as well as the requirements of each Community member are adequately taken into account.

3. In answer to Mr. Evans question about the proposed Section 57 duplicating other elements of the NIS, it was pointed out that background material would be presented only in noting geographic, political, social, and economic factors that directly impinge on dissidence and insurgency. Regarding State's concern that certain topics in the outline seemed to invite estimative content, it was explained that Section 57 producers did not intend to deal with the more current and transitory matters or with predictions that go beyond a statement of established trends. In this connection the NIS review and processing function in OBI would provide the control mechanism.

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4. Regarding the applicability of the proposed outline to all NIS Areas, it was noted that the revised Section 57 is specifically aimed at subversion and insurgent activities in non-Communist countries in underdeveloped areas. For describing subversion in more developed non-Communist as well as Communist countries, earlier versions of the outline are more appropriate.

5. Mr. Evans suggested that it might be appropriate to delay final action on the outline until the scope of operations of the newly formed committee on counterinsurgency headed by General Taylor are known. However, in closing the meeting he indicated that the discussion had resolved many of the points that had troubled State and in light of a clearer understanding of the proposal he would recommend with his superiors State's position in the matter.

6. The undersigned took the occasion to express appreciation for Mr. MacDonald's highly constructive work on the NIS Committee.

JAMES A. BRAMELL
Director of Basic Intelligence

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